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Collection Overview

Repository: Archives Center, National Museum of American History
Title: Archives Center Wild West Collection
Date: 1884-1917, undated
Identifier: NMAH.AC.1466
Creator: Sapienza, Anthony
Extent: 0.66 Cubic feet (2 boxes)
Language: Collection is in English. Some materials in French and German.
Summary: The collection consists of printed materials and ephemera relating to "Wild West" shows.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information
Collection donated by Anthony Sapienza in 2018.

Related Materials
- Archives Center, National Museum of American History
- Warshaw Collection of Business Americana, NMAH.AC.0060
- L.F. Foster Wild West Scrapbooks, Photographs, and Copy Negatives, NMAH.AC.1289
- Sonora Carver Papers, NMAH.AC.0521

Processing Information
Collection processed by Vanessa Broussard-Simmons, archivist, 2018.

Preferred Citation
Archives Center Wild West Collection, Archives Center, National Museum of American History

Restrictions
Collection is open for research.

Conditions Governing Use
Collection items available for reproduction, but the Archives Center makes no guarantees concerning intellectual property rights. Archives Center cost-recovery and use fees may apply when requesting reproductions.
Biographical / Historical

Wild West shows were performed across the United States from circa 1870-1920. The shows introduced the American West to a wider audience and primarily featured cowboys and Native Americans, loosely based on historical events. In addition, Wild West shows offered actors opportunities to display skills of showmanship.

Content Description

The collection consists of printed materials and ephemera relating to "Wild West" shows. It primarily includes dime novels, programs, sheet music, advertisements, artwork, and publications.

Arrangement

Collection arranged into one series.

Names and Subject Terms

This collection is indexed in the online catalog of the Smithsonian Institution under the following terms:

Subjects:

Cowboys -- United States
Illustrated books, Children's
Indians of North America
Rodeos -- United States
Western shows
Wild west shows

Cultures:

Indians of North America

Types of Materials:

Comic books
Design drawings
Itineraries
Programs
Sheet music -- 20th century

Names:

Buffalo Bill, 1846-1917
Pawnee Bill, 1860-1942
## Container Listing

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 1, Folder 1</th>
<th>Historical sketches and programs, 1884-1905</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Box 2, Folder 1</td>
<td>Book, 1887</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 1, Folder 2</td>
<td>Program (in French), 1889</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 1, Folder 3</td>
<td>Dime novel, 1895</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 1, Folder 4</td>
<td>Dime novels (in German), 1901</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 1, Folder 5</td>
<td>Postcard, 1911</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 1, Folder 6</td>
<td>Buffalo Bill Weekly, 1917-05-19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 1, Folder 7</td>
<td>Dime novels (in French), undated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 1, Folder 8</td>
<td>Dime novels (in French), undated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 1, Folder 9</td>
<td>Buffalo Bill's Wild West from Life by Charles Henckel, drawings, undated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 1, Folder 10</td>
<td>Original artwork for dime novel, undated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 2, Folder 2</td>
<td>Sheet music, undated</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>